FANTASY BASEBALL: DON'T GET GIDDY ABOUT CLOSERS

WAIT AND WAIT LONG IN YOUR FANTASY DRAFT. PAGE 21

metro

BOSTON Weekend, April 2-5, 2015 www.metro.us | t: MetroBOS | f: MetroBoston

MAD no more

TV. Will Don Draper die? **Jon Hamm** knows and he isn't telling you. The "Mad Men" star takes us through the end of the iconic show.

PAGES 10-11

Jon Hamm is allowed to grow a beard now that he's no longer on "Mad Men." The show's last seven episodes premiere on AMC Sunday at 10 p.m. / GETTY IMAGES

Local leaders fired up for T funding

PAGE 02

New Jersey senator indicted over bribes

PAGE 09

Find your new favorite bar to watch the Sox

PAGE 13

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UMASS BOSTON

1 NEWS

Top 3

The best of Metro.us

1 VIRAL VIDEO: Couple receives surprise wedding at movie theater

2 Geek Girl in Hollywood: In praise of fan fiction

3 EXCLUSIVE: Advocates push de Blasio to revamp how NYC recycles its commercial waste

Get the latest

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Murder trial

Friend: Hernandez handled suspected murder weapon

A former friend of Aaron Hernandez testified on Wednesday that he saw the ex-New England Patriots player handle a gun similar to the one prosecutors contend he used to murder an acquaintance, and that Hernandez had a distrustful nature. Alexander Bradley told jurors that Hernandez had access to the type of pistol he is accused of using to murder semipro football player Odin Lloyd in 2013. Bradley also contends Hernandez shot him in the face in a separate incident in 2013. REUTERS

Patriots' Day

Wahlberg producing film about Marathon bombings

Dorchester native and Hollywood A-Lister Mark Wahlberg is reportedly slated to produce a film about the Boston Marathon bombings for CBS films.

Wahlberg on the film set of "Ted 2" in Boston. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Variety reports that the film is currently titled "Patriots' Day" and will be based on the account of former Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis. There is no director or actor attached to the film yet, according to Variety.

Another movie, titled "Boston Strong" is already in the works. DANNY MCDONALD

Group pushes for more T funding and expansion

MBTA. Disheartened leaders say the current transit system is insufficient to meet the economic needs of the city and state.

A group of municipal and business leaders are pushing for more revenue for the embattled MBTA, saying more funding for the agency is needed to foster economic growth in the state.

The local luminaries gathered outside the Park Street T stop Tuesday to push for new funding. The group, which included hoteliers, local attorneys and the mayor of Somerville, said the state should explore new revenue streams including: Adding tolls to other roads besides the MassPike; hiking the gas tax, and granting municipalities the authority to vote for new transportation revenue via a referendum.

Money troubles

The future looks grim

Financially, the MBTA is a mess. The T has at least $6.7 billion worth of backlogged repairs and maintenance.

This winter, the agency came under fire after record snow fall and cold wreaked havoc on the T's antiquated infrastructure and cars. Delays were commonplace. Commuter frustration was constant and palpable.

The MBTA, according to the Urban Land Institute, will likely see an additional 367,000 riders per day by 2021.

An increase in demand for new housing in eastern Massachusetts — there may be a need for 435,000 new housing units by 2040 — means reliance on the MBTA will continue to grow.

Somerville Mayor Joe Curtatone joined local officials Wednesday outside the Park Street MBTA station. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

The collection of local leaders from various nonprofit and urban planning organizations were touting a newly published white paper called The Route to Growth, which encourages more investment in the MBTA and public transit expansion.

"The metro region and the entire commonwealth depends on the MBTA," said Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone.

Douglas McGarrah, the vice chairman of business associated for the nonprofit consortium A Better City, said Gov. Charlie Baker's special commission examining the T should make "radical reforms" to public transportation in the state. He declined to detail what such reforms would look like.

The group thought any potential moratorium on expanding the T was misguided, as it would curtail job creation and economic growth.

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Closing statements due in Tsarnaev trial

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev in federal court. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Lawyers for accused Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev wrapped up their case this week after calling only four witnesses over two days.

By comparison, the prosecution presented 92 witnesses in the trial of Tsarnaev, 21, who is accused in the April 15, 2013, attack that killed three people and injured 264 people near the finish line of the famed race.

Court will reconvene on Monday, with lawyers for each side making their closing statements before the jury begins deliberations.

If Tsarnaev is found guilty, the jury will decide whether to sentence him to death or life in prison without the possibility of parole after additional witness testimony.

In all, testimony in the guilt phase of Dzhokhar's trial took 16 days, less time than it took to pick the 12 jurors and six alternates. REUTERS

Blunt admission

Tsarnaev's lawyers opened the trial early last month by bluntly admitting that their client committed the crimes of which he stands accused. But they left his formal "not guilty" plea in place, meaning a jury must first convict him before taking up the question of whether to sentence him to death.

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From left, Aimee Ortiz, Max Campion, Charlie Vrettos and Harri Ganesan of the app BriefMe at the Harvard Innovation Lab. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Harvard-based app spotlights must-read news

Tech. The BriefMe app defines top news instead of relying on the eye of an editor.

Staying informed and finding credible news from reliable sources can be like herding cats in the chaos of social media platforms and news outlets. But the Cambridge-born app, BriefMe provides a single destination for a ranking system that organizes the endless flow of instant information based on social media shares and clicks in real time.

Their mobile app launched in the beginning of March with the goal of redefining front-page news.

"It's amazing how much information we have access to in 2015," said 25-year-old BriefMe CEO Max Campion. "The BriefMe Score was specifically developed to filter through the noise and deliver the most important story at that moment."

The app is the first of its kind. It uses an algorithm to analyze the relevance of an article by measuring how far the stories have caught on in the social media atmosphere.

The team at BriefMe hand-selects the leading news outlets and monitors the legitimacy of the stories.

The higher a story's BriefMe Score, the more digital ground it covered.

The algorithm filters and categorizes billions of articles shared on social media like Facebook and Twitter.

The rankings reflect significance, distribution and timeliness of stories from all over the world. The stories are displayed in a ticker that analyzes reader interest in a free-flowing format.

The categories are broken down into politics, entertainment, sports, business and other specific groups.

At 6 p.m. local time, BriefMe publishes a list of the most distributed stories of the day. The list is not user-specific and intentionally cannot be personalized, which challenges the users to read material from sources they may not have sought out.

"Staying informed can be an overwhelming task in the 24 hour news realm," said Campion. "It's easy for people to live in a bit of a bubble when it comes to choosing where their news comes from."

NATE HOMAN
@MetroBOS
letters@metro.us

BriefMe briefing

Campion grew up in Brookline and said that creating and running a company in Boston is the source of immense hometown pride.

- Since the early days in Harvard's Innovation Lab, BriefMe blossomed into a five-person operation, which hopes to help newsreaders make sense of the cluttered information in order to stay informed at the very moment news breaks.
- BriefMe News is a free iOS app available for download now on the App Store or at www.Getbriefme.com.

Quoted

"When you only get your news from certain outlets, you can miss a lot. BriefMe users are given information from heavily trafficked sources all over the planet."

Campion

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Boston springs into April with new startups

For exclusive commentary, visit **Metro.us/blogs.**

#DownloadBoston

TOM O'KEEFE

@BostonTweet

Tom O'Keefe is @BostonTweet and the founder of #DownloadBoston, a local movement to increase the awareness of Boston-based consumer startups.

The winter is finally over and with the spring comes warmer days, the Red Sox home opener (April 13), the Boston Marathon (April 20) and a handful of new Boston-based consumer startups.

Flyp is a new Boston-based startup that just launched this week. Flyp allows you to have multiple phone numbers for each part of you life, sort of like how you have multiple emails for spam and mom.

Mom could have your main phone number, but maybe you give the girl you're dating one number, and the delivery guy another. With Flyp you'll no longer be surprised when you say "hello."

With the warmer weather we'll be spending a lot more time outside being active.

One favorite outdoor activity is tennis, and soon two Boston-based startups will make it easier for you to find tennis partners. MatchOn and PracticeGigs will help you track down tennis partners and find players that are better than you so you can finally improve your game this year.

With the melting of the snow, parking in the city has become a tad bit easier, but Zwayo will make it even easier. Zwayo is an on demand parking service that sends a valet to your location who will then park your car for you. Right now Zwayo will valet your car seven days per week from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the North End, Downtown Boston, Theatre District, and the Back Bay.

And finally, the feel good startup Flutter will be launching this spring.

Flutter is the state of excitement that you feel when a donation to charity results in a once in a lifetime experience. For the price of a few coffees, you could win an amazing experience in Boston that simultaneously contributes to our great local charities.

Happy Spring!

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5 things you need to know

Ark. governor rejects bill after pressure over discrimination

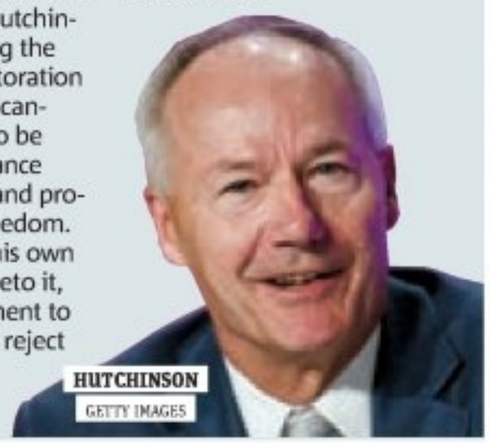
Republican Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson on Wednesday rejected a religion bill he had said he would sign into law, reversing course after a firestorm of criticism assailing such legislation as discriminating against gays and lesbians.

In a news conference at the Capitol in Little Rock, Hutchinson said he was sending the Religious Freedom Restoration Act back to the Republican-controlled legislature to be rewritten to better balance tolerance for diversity and protections of religious freedom.

The governor said his own son had asked him to veto it, adding a personal element to the intense pressure to reject the bill he had already faced from businesses such as Arkansas-based Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's biggest retailer.

While Hutchinson spoke, scores of protesters outside waved the rainbow flag of the gay rights movement.

"We want to be known as a state that does not discriminate, but understands tolerance. That is the challenge that we face," Hutchinson said. "We just didn't get it perfect through that legislative process." REUTERS



HUTCHINSON
GETTY IMAGES

Report of passenger video that records plane's final seconds

A video of the final seconds aboard the Germanwings plane that crashed in France last week has been discovered, reports said on Wednesday.

The video was found on a mobile phone belonging to one of the passengers killed on the plane which investigators say German pilot Andreas Lubitz deliberately flew into a mountain in the French Alps, Bild newspaper reported.

The scenes captured on the video were chaotic and very wobbly, said Bild, adding screams and shouts of "My God" could be heard, indicating the passengers knew what was happening. REUTERS

Calif. orders 25 percent water usage reduction

California Gov. Jerry Brown, acting in the face of a devastating, multiyear drought, ordered the first statewide mandatory water restrictions on Wednesday, directing cities and communities to reduce usage by 25 percent.

Brown, who made the announcement at a ski resort in the Sierra Nevada mountains, said the move, which comes as California reports its lowest snowpack levels on record, would save some 1.5 million acre-feet of water over the next nine months. REUTERS

US targets overseas cyber attackers with new sanctions program

President Barack Obama launched a new sanctions program on Wednesday to target individuals and groups outside the United States that use "malicious" cyber attacks to threaten U.S. foreign policy, national security or economic stability.

In an executive order, Obama declared such activities a "national emergency" and allowed the U.S. Treasury Department to freeze the assets and bar other financial transactions of entities engaged in destructive cyber attacks.

It is the Obama administration's latest effort to get tough with hackers. REUTERS

John Lennon's first wife Cynthia dies

Cynthia Lennon, first wife of late Beatle John Lennon, has died, her family said.

"Cynthia Lennon passed away at her home in Mallorca, Spain following a short but brave battle with cancer," according to a family statement on her son Julian's website.

Cynthia Lennon, 75, married the former Beatle in 1962 and the couple divorced in 1968 when he left her for Japanese artist Yoko Ono. REUTERS

CYNTHIA LENNON
GETTY IMAGES

Menendez indicted on ties to alleged bribery scheme

Staying. Aides have said that Menendez is expected to keep his seat and fight the charges.

Menendez is also a senior member of the Senate Banking Committee, which oversees Wall Street regulation, and the tax-law-writing Senate Finance Committee. / GETTY IMAGES

Democratic U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez's indictment on corruption charges on Wednesday raised the possibility of Republicans gaining a 55th Senate seat to strengthen their hand in policy fights with President Barack Obama.

Federal prosecutors indicted the New Jersey senator on charges of accepting gifts from a donor and friend, Florida-based ophthalmologist Salomon Melgen, in exchange for using the power of his Senate office to benefit Melgen's personal and financial interests. Melgen was also charged.

Menendez, 61, a senior member of Senate foreign policy, banking and finance committees, had said previously he had done nothing wrong and had no plans to leave his seat. He has described his relationship with Melgen as a close friendship.

Senate leaders, including some Republicans, stood behind Menendez for two years amid previous reports he was being investigated, none of which led to any actions against him.

If Menendez were to step down, New Jersey's Republican governor, Chris Christie, would likely appoint a Republican replacement to serve until a special election. That would bring the number of Republicans in the Senate to 55, one seat closer to the 60-seat "super majority" needed to overcome Democrats' procedural roadblocks and advance legislation.

Gaining that incremental edge could mean the difference in a political fight over confirming Loretta Lynch, Obama's nominee to be the next U.S. attorney general, who is opposed by many Republicans. That vote is expected to be very close.

A Menendez resignation could also put Republicans just one vote shy of clearing the way for passage of a human trafficking bill with anti-abortion language, which Democrats have blocked. REUTERS

Immigration reform

12M

Menendez has been a central player in the push for immigration reform, urging a pathway to citizenship for nearly 12 million undocumented residents of the United States.

Canadian-born

Joni Mitchell hospitalized after being found unconscious

Joni Mitchell / GETTY IMAGES

Groundbreaking musician Joni Mitchell, one of the stars of the Woodstock era, was "in good spirits" at a hospital in California on Tuesday after being found unconscious at her home, her official website said.

A statement on her website said the 71-year-old singer-songwriter had regained consciousness while being transported by ambulance to a Los Angeles-area hospital.

Mitchell was undergoing medical testing in the intensive care unit but was "awake and in good spirits," the statement said.

Further details on her condition and the nature of the medical emergency were not immediately provided. Representatives for the musician did not respond to requests for comment.

TMZ.com said that she was hospitalized after authorities received a 911 call from her Los Angeles home about an unconscious woman. REUTERS

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Jon Hamm grieves for the end of 'Mad Men'

MATT PRIGGE
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The actor says Don Draper may turn out to be a kindly grandfather.

Jon Hamm finished playing Don Draper almost a year ago. But because the last season of "Mad Men" was split over two years, he's still talking about him — and, of course, not talking about what happens in the final seven episodes.

Visiting the show's native city, Hamm talked about the grieving process, which scenes or episodes are his favorites (spoiler: he has no favorites) and the difficulty of change.

How he's handling post-"Mad" life

"You go through the five stages of grief. Whoever invented those was a genius. … It was eight months ago, so there's a process of leaving, and we all kind of did our own thing. Between then and now, people have done movies and plays, moving on with their lives. … Those are definitely little reminders that everything ends."

On 'Mad Men' spoilers

"I could literally write down the last scene of 'Mad Men' for you. But why would that be fun? Other than you would know something no one else knows. But then would you want to watch the episodes? Would you give a s—? Reading the last page of a novel doesn't really tell you anything, because there's no context. You know how it ends but you don't really know how it ends. You know the last thing. Matt told me how it ended four years ago. Or he told me an idea he had for the way it might progress. But that was 30 episodes ago. He didn't tell me how we're getting there."

Don vs. change

"He struggles with a lot of things, and sometimes wants to change but doesn't want to do the work. Because the work sucks. It hurts. And it dredges up a lot of s— you don't want to deal with."

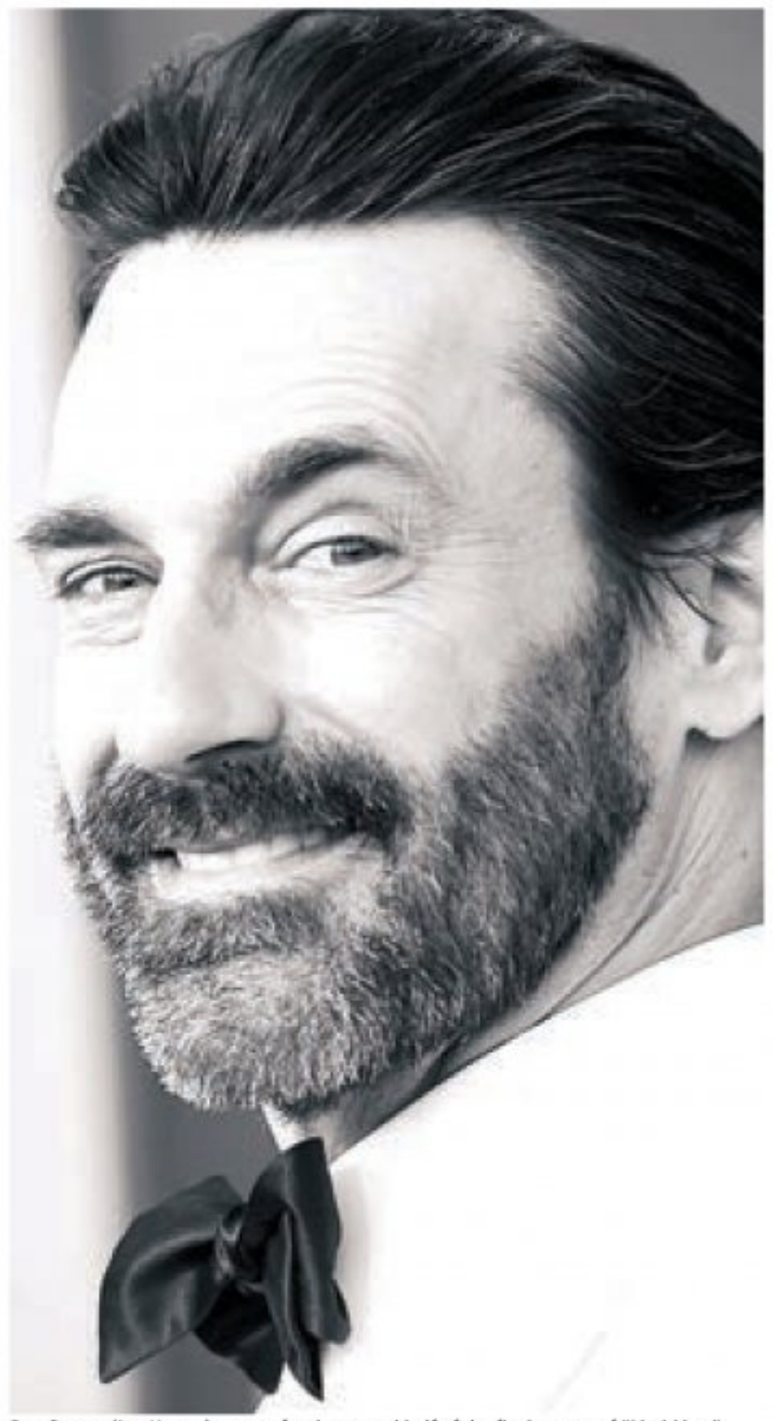
Don the dad

Don is very aware of what he's done, is doing and will do to his kids. He saw it happen to himself. He was terribly parented and he doesn't want to be a bad parent. … I think he sometimes has a hard time expressing it. That's one of his struggles.

Maybe he's the guy who becomes a great grandpa. I had a very good relationship with my grandfather, and I would talk to my aunts and uncles about him and they were like, 'Yeah, he's great, but you didn't know him as a dad.' He's mellower."

What was Don's most meaningful affair?

"I think they're all meaningless."



Don Draper (Jon Hamm) returns for the second half of the final season of "Mad Men," premiering Sunday at 10 p.m. on AMC. GETTY IMAGES

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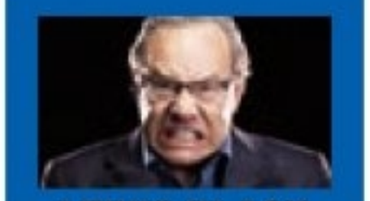

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Sam Heughan stars in "Outlander," which returns Saturday at 9 p.m. on Starz.
SONY PICTURES TELEVISION

Jamie Fraser is back to save the day on 'Outlander'

Sam Heughan says Jamie will be as dashing as ever.

LISA WEIDENFELD
@LisaWeidenfeld
lisa.weidenfeld@metro.us

Claire Randall (nee Beauchamp, and now Fraser) has had a rough couple of weeks on Starz's "Outlander." Since accidentally time-traveling from post-World War II-era Scotland to the same area in the 1740s, she's been in near constant danger. Luckily, she's had the dashing Jamie Fraser to save her. At the end of the first half of the season, we saw him come to the rescue once again, but Sam Heughan, who plays Jamie, says it's not all about saving the day.

"I think especially in the first half of the season, he does come across as this dashing hero who is always there at the right time and can't do anything wrong. But obviously, it's from Claire's point of view, and when we start to dig deeper in the second half of the season, we see a lot more of where Jamie's come from and what he's had to go through to get there," explains Heughan.

That's not to say he's completely done with heroism. "He's still very dashing and does certainly save Claire a couple of times, but we start to realize he doesn't do it without some effort," says Heughan.

Jamie's relationship with Claire has seen its share of ups and downs. She doesn't always understand the social mores of the world she's traveled to. "What he's attracted to, but what is also a constant source of frustration for him, is the fact that she is headstrong and does what she thinks, and he'll tell her to do one thing, and she'll go and do something else," says Heughan.

But Jamie is doing the best he can, considering the circumstances. "I think Jamie's a quite modern man, quite forward-thinking for the time, but he's also a product of the time. He's been brought up a certain way," says Heughan. "But he's very well educated, and he's traveled a lot, and I think that's what gives him the ability, further down the line, to appreciate where she's from and not run a mile when she tells him the truth."

The scene

Readers of the "Outlander" books know a troubling scene is coming up. After Claire's disobedience leads both her and Jamie into danger, he spanks her to teach her a lesson. "That was probably one of the harder scenes to pitch right, coming from a modern perspective, but ultimately he's a man of the times," says Heughan. He says he understands Jamie, even if he doesn't agree with him. "She's put everyone in grave danger. They could have all been killed," he says. "As the season progresses, he learns that isn't the way to go about things, and he learns a very big lesson, as does she, and that leads them to move forward in their relationship."

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Take me out to the sports bar

Baseball season begins on Monday — here's where to pull up a bar stool for all the action. **LISA WEIDENFELD**

Parlor Sports Bar
1 Beacon St., Somerville

Sharing a kitchen with Trina's Starlite Lounge next door — and a healthy selection of local craft beers — Parlor offers a slightly better drinking and dining experience than most sports bars. Plus, given its Inman Square locale, this is a great place for the serious Sox fan who wants to avoid the crush in the Fenway neighborhood.

Tony C's
699 Assembly Row, Somerville

Tony's is one of the newer spots you can visit to see the Sox in action. It's part of the ever-growing Assembly Row development, which also means it might be new enough that you can still grab a good seat come baseball season. Of course, with the giant wall of TVs that greet you, it's tough to find a bad place to watch the game here. And you can even eat healthy here if you want! There's quite a few salads to choose from, and Tony's is the rare sports bar with kale and quinoa on the menu.

Cask 'n Flagon
62 Brookline Ave., Boston

For some fans, traditional is the way to go. Cask 'n Flagon has been a Fenway fixture for years, and rightly so: It's around the corner from the ballpark. The food may not be gourmet, but they serve up all the fried delicacies you love to pretend are a necessary part of the baseball experience.

Baseball Tavern
1270 Boylston St., Boston

It's right there in the name, guys. If you're serious about baseball, this is the place for you. This is not the place you go to chit chat about the new "Avengers" movie. It's where you go to eat wings, drink a beer and talk Sox. Be ready with your finest prognostications of the season to come.

McGreevy's
911 Boylston St., Boston

It doesn't get much more Boston than this place, which is the official home of the city's unofficial band, the Dropkick Murphys. How serious about the Sox are they? They have a countdown clock, down to the seconds, measuring the moments until the Red Sox home opener. But don't worry, you can still catch the away games there until the team comes home.

ISTOCK

On sale Friday

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July 28, Blue Hills Bank Pavilion

Rascal Flatts
Aug. 2, Xfinity Center

Rob Thomas
Aug. 5, Blue Hills Bank Pavilion

Primus
July 25, Blue Hills Bank Pavilion

Action Bronson
April 27, House of Blues

Milky Chance
July 30, House of Blues

Say Anything
July 10, House of Blues

Migos
May 9, Paradise

Walk Off the Earth
May 13, Paradise

Seinabo Sey
May 29, Brighton Music Hall

Billy Corgan of Smashing Pumpkins
GETTY IMAGES

On the 'Wagon'

"Platinum" won the award for Best Country Album at last month's Grammy Awards, where Miranda Lambert and her band performed "Little Red Wagon" with all red instruments. GETTY IMAGES

The country singer discusses her sassy new single and the importance of women in country music.

PAT HEALY
@MetroBos
letters@metro.us

When Miranda Lambert sings about her "Little Red Wagon," she insists she's not making a double entendre. After the country superstar debuted a video for the song, NYmag.com ran a piece about it by Maggie Lange with the headline, "Is This 2015's Most Alarming Euphemism for a Vagina?"

"That's the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard," says Lambert. "That's the kind of people that I wish didn't listen to my music, because they clearly don't get it."

Behind the music

Like a number of the tracks on Lambert's most recent album, "Platinum," she did not write the song. "Little Red Wagon" began life as an Army cadence, and in 2012, Oklahoma-based singer Audra Mae put a more fleshed-out version of the song on her album with The Almighty Sound. And when Lambert recorded it, she even invited Mae to sing with her.

"There's not that many women in country right now, and I know there's a lot of up-and- coming girls that are on their way, but I think it's important that the ones of us that are where I am … mention them and help them get farther," she says.

Country girls sticking together

"On this record, I wrote about half of the songs," she says, "and it just so happens that I did record a lot of female writers too, and that wasn't necessarily on purpose, but I'm just a fan of women in country music and women in music in general."

Lambert is devoted to this cause in more ways than just covering other women. She often takes a screenshot of her phone when she's listening to a song she's really into and posts it on Instagram with the #girlsincountrymusic hashtag.

"We have to stick together and lift each other up and promote each other," she says.

Miranda Lambert

April 10
DCU Center
50 Foster St., Worcester
$38-$53, 800-745-3000
www.ticketmaster.com

On Blake Shelton

Miranda Lambert is married to fellow country singer Blake Shelton, who is also known for his work as a judge on "The Voice." But while Shelton is extra critical on the reality show, Lambert says he's a bit softer with her: "We ask each other's opinion, but mostly we're just supportive of each other," she says. "He's one of my biggest fans, and that's so cool. He's always supportive and has really positive things to say. I'm always like, 'How was it? How was I singing?' He always gives me whatever advice I need. He doesn't hold back either, with whatever criticism, and I do the same for him, but mostly we're just proud of each other."

Also onstage

GETTY IMAGES

TWIN SHADOW

Friday, 7 p.m.
The Paradise
967 Comm. Ave., Boston
$18, 800-745-3000
www.ticketmaster.com

Singer Twin Shadow has a strongly New Wave-influenced sound, but don't take that to mean he's some '80s tribute act. It's more that he relates to a certain mode of pop drama found in the music of that era — serious, moody and epic, but also catchy and dance-able. If you're looking for snark or irony, look elsewhere — Twin Shadow means it, man.

PROVIDED

KODAK TO GRAPH

Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Middle East Upstairs
472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
$10-$12, 18+, 866-777-8932
www.ticketweb.com

Kodak to Graph is the mysterious moniker of 22-year-old Iranian-American electronic music producer Michael Maleki, a young man with a seemingly endless resource of chilled out beats and magical sounds. Songs like "Glaacia" start out slow and meandering, building into majestic landscapes of emotion. It's nostalgic without being sentimental and cool without being cold — definitely a name to watch.

MATTHEW DINARO

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Sit down at the bar at Townsman, the new brasserie at the crossroads of Chinatown and the Financial District, and bar manager Sean Frederick is going to want to know what, if anything, you're having to eat. "This is definitely a restaurant-driven bar program," he says of the concept from James Beard nominee Matt Jennings. "So it's important for me to be suggesting beverages that fit the context of their meal and their experience and aren't too jarring."

Serving cocktails with food is similar to the way you choose wine with a meal, he says. "It's important with any beverage not to clobber people over the head with too much alcohol or too much flavor so it won't detract from what's coming out of the kitchen." What's coming out of the kitchen in this case are hearty seafood and stews, charcuterie and smaller bites like beef cheek and apple pierogies, and charred baby octopus.

Townsman aims to offer a menu that will please craft cocktail fans while not scaring off the cocktail novices of the world. DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Keeping it basic

In designing a cocktail list, Frederick said it was important to drill things down to their basics. "A lot of thought and technique goes into the drinks," he explains, "but we want the offerings to read as very clean and accessible. We wanted to give people flavors and ingredients that they can grasp instead of a laundry list of ingredients that kind of clouds the picture."

That effect appears on the menu in the case of the brightly vegetal but savory Green Girder, which is explained simply as gin, celery juice, lime, smoke and salt. But there's a lot more at play. The juice alone is a mix of celery, sugar, Kummel, a caraway-flavored liqueur and celery shrub. The smoke comes in the form of mezcal, while the salt is a mix of three or four different types.

Townsman

120 Kingston St., Boston
617-210-4743
townsmanboston.com

Location, location, location

It is somewhat surprising to see a restaurant and bar of this caliber on the quiet end of Kingston Street.

"No great bar can be successful without fitting the context of the neighborhood," Frederick says. "We have an interesting position here. The reason why Matt was obsessed with coming to this location – we're seeing a revival Downtown – but this block and street corner is the apex of at least three wildly different neighborhoods. The Financial District is out one window, you turn the other direction and there's Chinatown, and you're staring out at the Greenway out of the other window. Across the street you've got the Leather District."

Some of the drinks pay homage to those areas. The Green Girder is a wink to the past, current and future of the Greenway, referencing the girders that used to make up the artery, with a little smoke to conjure the gritty traffic, but couched in the context of the lush new walkway and park.

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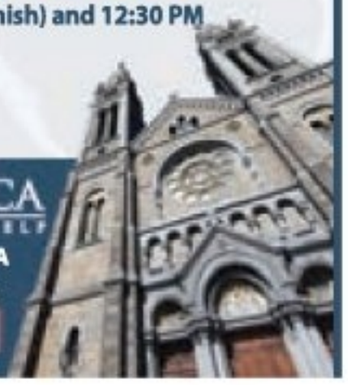
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday, April 2nd
Mass of the Lord's Supper (Bi-lingual) 7:00 PM
Adoration after Mass until 10:00 PM

Good Friday, April 3rd
Lord's Passion (English) 3:00 PM & 7:00 PM
Lord's Passion (Spanish) 5:00 PM

Holy Saturday, April 4th
Easter Vigil (Bi-lingual) 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday, April 5th
9:00 AM, 11:00 AM (Spanish) and 12:30 PM



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Listings

COMEDY

Anuvab Pal

Friday, 10:15 p.m.
Laugh Boston
425 Summer St., Boston
$25, 617-725-2844
www.laughboston.com
Anuvab Pal is a comedian and screenwriter frequently cited as one of India's best comedic minds. He only started doing standup relatively recently, in 2010, but the ranty punch of his set would make you think he's a veteran.

THEATER

'God's Ear'

Through April 12
Davis Square Theater
255 Elm St., Somerville
$28-$50, 866-811-4111
www.actorsshakespeareproject.org
This Actors' Shakespeare Project show centers on the relationship between husband Ted and wife Mel who are struggling to come to grips with the loss of their young son.

MATTHEW DINARO

MOVIES

Boston LGBT Film Festival

Thursday through April 9
Multiple Venues; www.bostonlgbtfilmfest.net
The 31st annual Boston LGBT Film Festival is one of the city's biggest cinema events, taking place across multiple venues with screenings at the Museum of Fine Arts, the Institute of Contemporary Art, the Paramount Theater and the Brattle Theater, featuring a diverse selection of films representing the very big tent that is the LGBT world.

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Havana highlights

SYLVAINE POITAU/APA PUBLICATIONS

Old Havana

As the diplomatic ice melts between the U.S. and Cuba, Havana is set to be a hot destination for American travelers. From its colonial palaces to its sultry music, Cuba's capital is all the more appealing for having been off limits all these years.

La Habana Vieja (Old Havana) is at the heart of this vibrant city. Its cobbled streets wind past dilapidated mansions, Baroque churches and restored colonial squares such as Plaza Vieja with its ornate pastel facades. The elaborate neoclassical buildings, with their decorative iron balconies and dappled courtyards, have earned it a Unesco World Heritage designation.

ISTOCK

Musicians at the Malecon Barrier

The sounds of salsa and son (traditional Cuban music) are everywhere, drifting from open windows and strolling musicians. Landmarks range from Plaza de Armas, Havana's oldest square with a 16th-century fortress and second-hand book market, to the striking Baroque cathedral with its two bell towers, to La Bodeguita del Medio, the tiny bar where Ernest Hemingway drank his mojitos. Take a bright yellow Cocotaxi, a two-seater buggy powered by a motorcycle engine, for a fun ride along the Prado, past the domed Capitolio and the Gran Teatro de la Havana. Cuba is most famous for its vintage 1950s American cars, lovingly preserved, polished and at your service as taxis and tour vehicles. This is the best way to explore greater Havana.

SYLVAINE POITAU/APA PUBLICATIONS

Cocotaxi

Motor along the Malecon — the glorious 5-mile esplanade and sea wall bordering the harbor — with the sea breeze in your hair, past weathered buildings and modern hotels. Stop for a drink at the landmark Hotel Nacional, a legendary Mafia haunt before the revolution; there are wonderful sea views from the terrace. Nearby is Plaza de la Revolucion, site of the Jose Marti Memorial, the tallest structure in the city, which affords sweeping views.

> **Stop into La Bodeguita del Medio, where writer Ernest Hemingway drank mojitos.**

Other sights of interest include Havana's impressive harbor forts, El Morro and La Cabana, and several art and history museums. The Ernest Hemingway Museum, set in the writer's former home, is just outside the city. A visit to the La Corona or Partagas cigar factories offers a fascinating look at one of Cuba's main industries. **INSIGHT GUIDES | MIKE GERRARD AND DONNA DAILEY**

SYLVAINE POITAU/APA PUBLICATIONS

Capitolio

More Cuban cities to see

SYLVAINE POITAU/APA PUBLICATIONS

Camaguey

Trinidad

This is Cuba's prettiest town. Its lovely colonial buildings are among the best-preserved in the Americas.

Camaguey

Another colonial gem, Camaguey's beautiful squares include Plaza San Juan de Dios, ringed by small, brightly colored houses, and Plaza del Carmen, with its life-like sculptures of local people at work and rest.

Santiago de Cuba

Cuba's second city is a melting pot of Afro-Cuban traditions, with a famous Casa de la Trova, or music hall.

Santa Clara

The Battle of Santa Clara was a decisive victory in the Cuban Revolution. On the outskirts of town, the Che Guevara Monument and Mausoleum pays tribute to this much-loved national hero.

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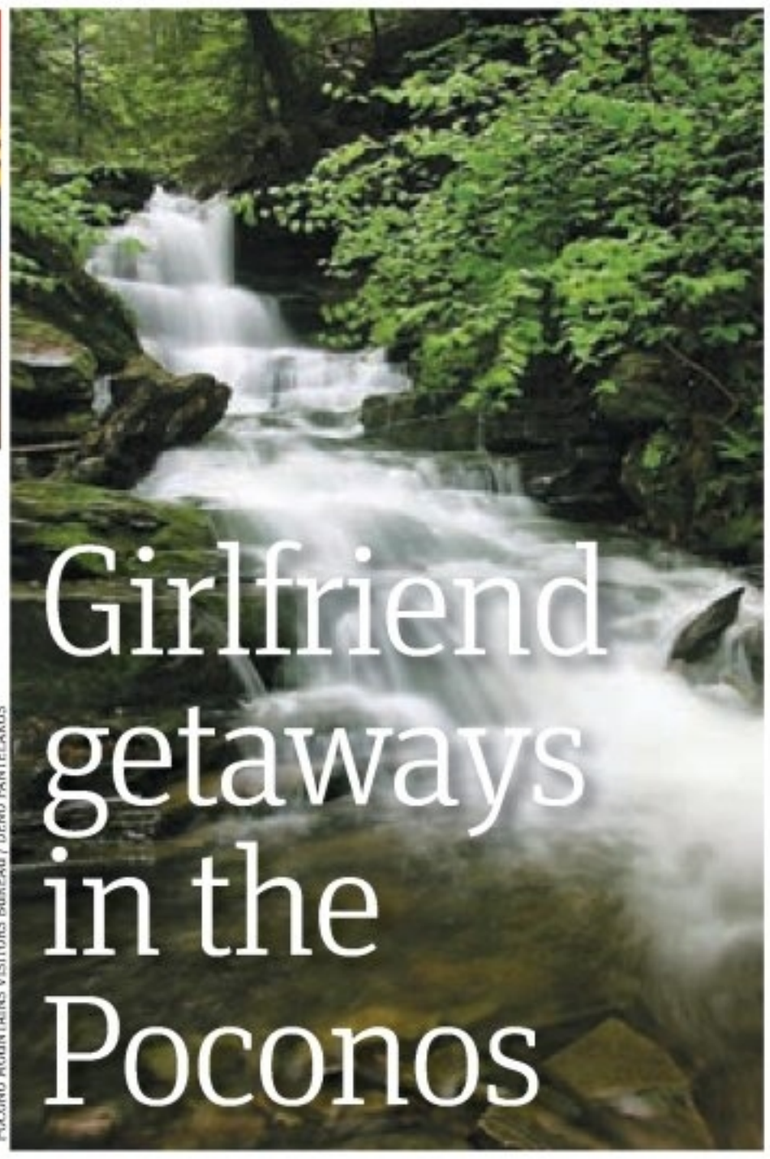
Girlfriend getaways in the Poconos



POCONO MOUNTAINS VISITORS BUREAU / DENO PANTELAKOS

With spa treatments, tax-free shopping, plenty of dining options and outdoor adventures, the Poconos are the perfect destination for girlfriend getaways.

Cocktails at Desaki

POCONO MOUNTAINS VISITORS BUREAU

The scenery is beautiful, the accommodations luxurious, the welcome warm and friendly. Browse, gossip, be pampered, and enjoy the great outdoors on a woodland trail. Rather than one large city, the Pocono Mountains in northeastern Pennsylvania have a cluster of small towns worth visiting.

Milford, Jim Thorpe and Honesdale each have a lot of charm. Dating back over 200 years, they're filled with Victorian and colonial-era buildings. Many of the houses are inns and B&Bs.

Spa Shawnee

JEFF GREENBERG

Hawley, in particular, has a two-mile stroll along a river and through the downtown area — particularly nice on a spring day.

Pennsylvania has no sales tax on clothing. That's an excuse (if you need one) to browse through the boutiques, but don't miss the galleries and specialty stores in the towns.

If name brands are your passion, head for The Crossings Premium Outlets in Tannersville (**www.premiumoutlets.com**). Over 100 major clothing and accessory outlets stores are there. Check the website for monthly in-store promotions. Antique lovers can explore treasure troves of collectibles and rarities at antique barns and malls.

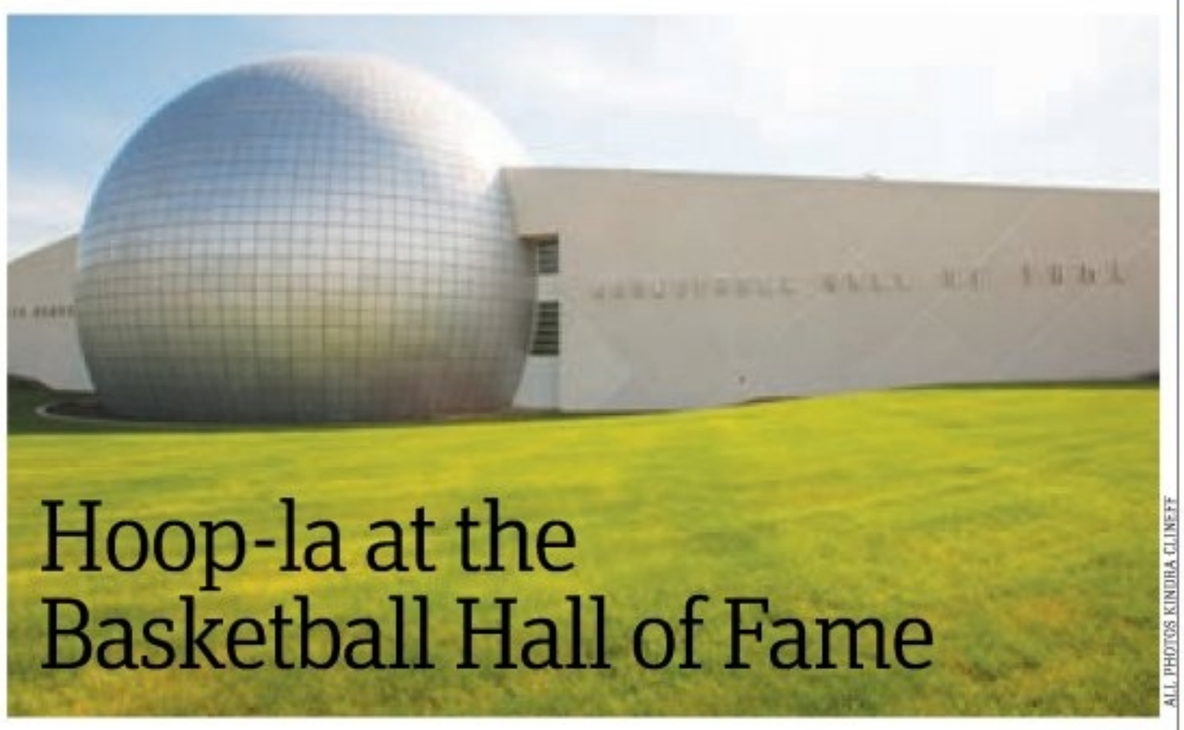
Spend a day browsing through the boutiques and galleries.

Pampering is high on any to-do list of girlfriend getaways. Local spas offer every possible treatment — from exotic wraps and scrubs to all-natural body conditioning. You can choose from day spas and destination spas/resorts.

For dining, there are options for whatever you're in the mood for. The area is remarkably diverse, with Thai and Japanese restaurants, Irish pubs and French bistros, along with farm-to-table and casual American menus.

If you are too frazzled to deal with planning, many resorts and inns offer packages that include accommodations, discounts for dining and shopping, spa treatments, and welcome gifts.

The Poconos website (**www.800poconos.com**) is very comprehensive and easy to navigate and has information on spas, accommodations and more. **INSIGHT GUIDES | FRAN SEVERN**



ALL PHOTOS KINDRA CLINEFF

Hoop-la at the Basketball Hall of Fame

Haven't had enough of basketball with March Madness? Visit this museum in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Named after James Naismith, who is credited with creating the game in 1891, the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame (www.hoophall.com) is a devotee's dream. The building itself is a tribute to the sport: It's a giant silver basketball. Inside, you'll see uniforms, balls used in famous games and trophies. Interactive areas explain the history of the game and development of rules (like the 24-second shot clock). Walk along the upper balcony to view the photos and learn the histories of more than 300 inductees: famous and obscure players, coaches, referees, teams and colleges. You can start speculating about which players from this year's Final Four will someday be on the walls. And there are plenty of hoops hanging throughout the building with visitors invited to take a shot or two.

INSIGHT GUIDES | FRAN SEVERN

Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20
It's time to finalize the deal that will bring the highest reward. If you don't put in the time and effort now, a great opportunity will be missed.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21
Financial gains are looking good. You should put any emotional issues on the back burner while you focus on getting ahead.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20
Things may appear to be running smoothly, but you should take a closer look. Personal matters are heading in a negative direction due to a lack of nurturing on your part.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22
Confrontations are best avoided. Work on a creative pastime that will keep you away from disgruntled colleagues or family members. Don't waste time worrying about things that haven't happened.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22
If you put your best foot forward, you will reach your highest potential. You are no stranger to hard work, so keep the momentum going and financial rewards will come to you.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22
Don't allow disagreements to fester. You are best off letting your true feelings be known when settling troublesome matters.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22
A pleasant surprise lies ahead. Take a few hours to enjoy good times with friends or loved ones. All work and no play leads to stress and unhappiness.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Things are looking up. Now is the time to try something that you have always wanted to do. Take a trip, join a theater group or sign up for a creative course that intrigues you.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Stop dwelling on things you cannot change. If you put personal and emotional issues aside, you will have the energy to get a lot done. Keeping busy will be necessary.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
A hasty decision could have negative repercussions. This is not a day for wheeling and dealing. Spend some quiet time with loved ones and recharge your batteries.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
With patience and determination, you will be able to make things go your way. Don't be deterred by someone who doesn't know you well and who fails to understand your motives.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20
You will need to think on your feet. Your day isn't likely to go according to plan. Use your wit and gumption to overcome any obstacle. EUGENIA LAST

Letters to the editor

New energy saver will be bureaucratic, expensive, hackable nightmare

Smart meters are being forced on unaware and uninformed captive ratepayers in order for the government to ration everyone's electricity. (Of course, the elites will have as much electricity as they want.)

Because the EPA has decommissioned hundreds of electric generating plants, and will not issue permits to build new electric generating plants, the amount of available electricity is decreasing.

The Smart Meters will monitor your every move, 24/7/365, in order to produce an "energy profile" on you. Then, faceless bureaucrats will decide if you are using too much and involuntarily cut your flow of electricity back to a level they deem "fair."

Every ratepayer will pay $300+ for their Smart Meter, an unprecedented tax on every household for utility company equipment.

Smart Meters emit and receive military-weapons-grade microwaves all the time, impacting the health of a significant number of people, especially children and pregnant women.

Smart Meters are touted as a tool to save consumers money, for instance, by using time-of-day pricing. Fine, if you want to do your laundry at 3 a.m. Smart Meters are sold as being "green."

But they are not-they create a net loss of energy. Smart Meters have no security from hackers: zero, nada, none.

Anyone driving by your home can find out everything about your electric use and develop a profile they can exploit, as well as tamper with the electric grid at will, creating chaos and havoc.

TOM MCCAREY, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

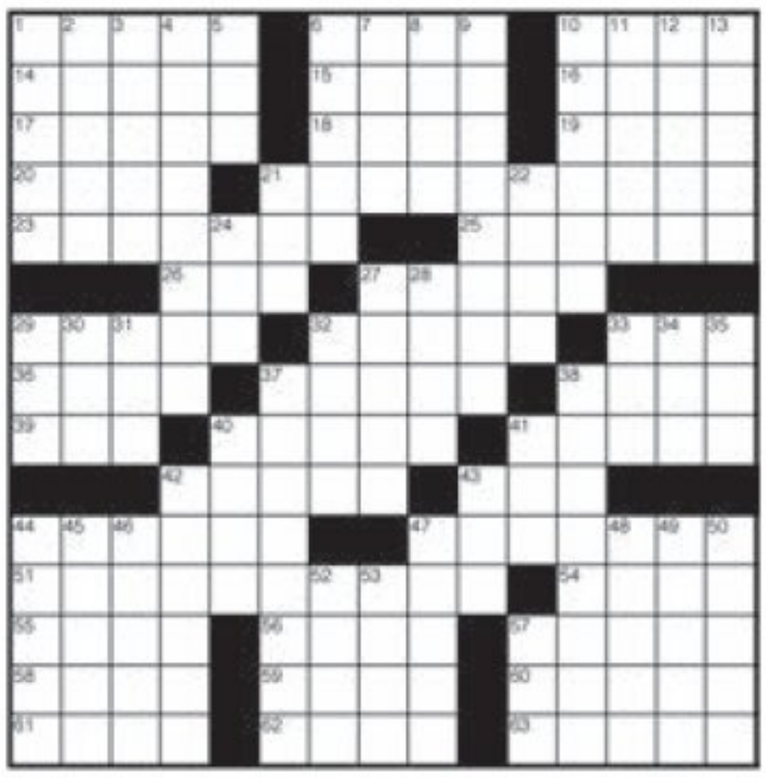
Sudoku: Easy and hard

	5				2			9
				1	9			7
		8	3	4				
			4				9	3
7		3	9	2	8	4		5
9	6				5			
				9	3	8		
2			7	6				
3			8				1	

9		2	4					6
7			5	3				1
5		3						
	9	5	3				4	7
4	6				1	3	8	
						8		3
3				8	6			5
6					3	2		4

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword



Across
1 Not real
6 Carbon deposit
10 Oktober ending
14 Get accustomed
15 El —, Texas
16 Cuba, to Castro
17 Grid coach Don —
18 "Tickle Me" puppet
19 Curb
20 Split
21 Remittance man (2 wds.)
23 Tabloid seller
25 Armadas
26 Loud noise
27 Amigo's farewell
29 35mm setting (hyph.)
32 Mitt
33 Software problem
36 Livy's route
37 Make glad
38 Ms. Sedgwick
39 Look closely
40 Famous last words
41 River rapids
42 Garage jobs
43 Oxygen source
44 Globe
47 Deer's rack
51 Tortilla melt
54 Sledgehammer
55 Coffee dispensers
56 Flutie or Williams
57 Obsidian, once
58 British composer
59 Vulcan's forge
60 Synthetic fabric
61 Industrial giant
62 An evening out
63 Try extra hard

Down
1 Doesn't eat
2 Committee type (2 wds.)
3 Dern of films
4 Grandeur
5 Flight board info
6 Relieve
7 Powers of old movies
8 "Semper fi" grp.
9 Had a break (2 wds.)
10 Casts a fly
11 Ms. Lauder
12 Driving hazard
13 Fills a pipe
21 Make illegal
22 Gin-fizz flavor
24 Ice-cream serving
27 Cumming and Thicke
28 Specks
29 "A pox upon thee!"
30 Dirty place
31 Tiger's peg
32 High spirits
33 Provo inst.
34 Website
35 Mobster's piece
37 Fixed firmly
38 Lenin's inspiration (2 wds.)
40 A psychic may see one
41 Perch
42 The preferred evil
43 Santa — winds
44 Hunker down
45 Cat's murmurs
46 Reddish dye
47 Birdbath slime
48 Ancient Rome's emblem
49 Gossip's delight
50 Bias
52 Scintilla
53 Fontanne's husband
57 Stooge with bangs

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DON'T CARE ABOUT 'ART OF THE CLOSE'

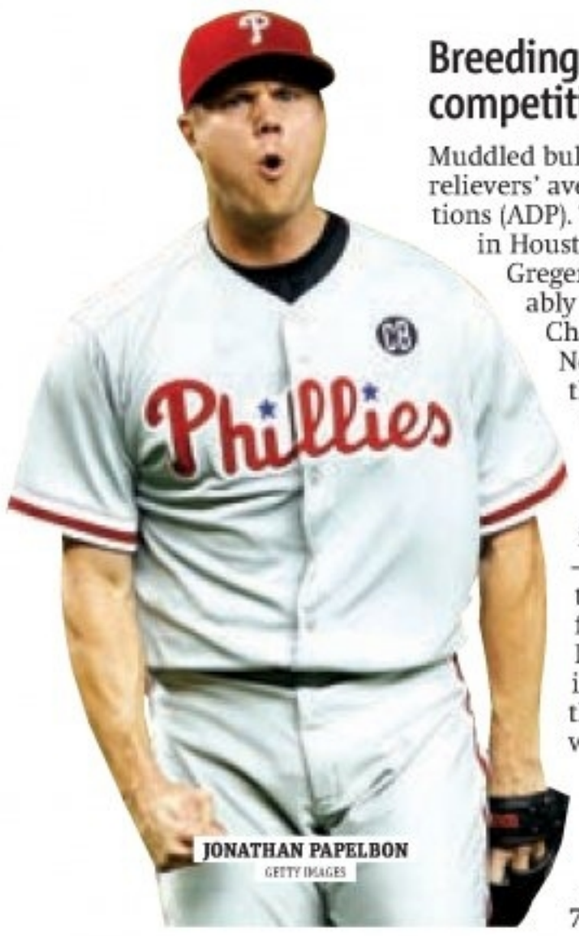
The baseball equivalent of "late-round quarterback" is "don't pay for saves."

It's an effective strategy because of how volatile the position is. Last year, 49 different pitchers recorded at least five saves and 39 shut the door 10 times. The league leader in saves, Fernando Rodney, was one of the last relievers selected on fantasy draft day. Francisco Rodriguez went from a setup role in April to finish with 44 saves, and Zach Britton went from trading block to middle relief to eighth inning to 37 saves very quickly. The list goes on and on. So we know we're not going to spend a high pick on a closer. But who should we be looking at in the later rounds?

Lefty closer Sean Doolittle is not expected back in the Oakland bullpen until May. / GETTY IMAGES

The Oakland Clipper

Injuries are the first place we can find value. Athletics closer Sean Doolittle is rehabbing a torn rotator cuff in his pitching shoulder, a potentially disastrous injury. The team believes he can come back sometime in May, but that's far from a certainty. What we do know is Tyler Clippard is a flyball pitcher playing in Oakland's cavernous park, holds a career 2.88 ERA, will hold down the closer's job until Doolittle returns and can be had in the 16th round or so.



JONATHAN PAPELBON
GETTY IMAGES

Breeding competition

Muddled bullpens sink relievers' average draft positions (ADP). That's the case in Houston, where Luke Gregerson has predictably emerged from Chad Qualls/Pat Neshek and won the closer role. But since Gregerson had to fight for the gig, his ADP is down in the 220 range — right around the dumpster fire that will be LaTroy Hawkins in Colorado. Note that the Astros will have plenty of save opportunities this year — Vegas has their win total at a respectable 75.5.

Trade winds blowing

The Phillies finally appear committed to a desperately-needed rebuild and closer Jonathan Papelbon is likely on the way out of town. Enter Ken Giles, who has some of the nastiest stuff in the league and is the heir apparent. Giles can still help deep leaguers, even before Papelbon is dealt, via the strikeout category.

FANTASY SPORTS
ADAM LEVITAN
alevitan@metro.us

NFL news

New Denver Broncos head coach Gary Kubiak spent last season in Baltimore, but he has two eyes. So it should be no surprise that he's already named RB C.J. Anderson his starter for the off-season program, a role we can expect CJA to maintain. He's an ideal one-cut runner for this system.

NBA pickups

Players to add this week:

- **Justin Hamilton, C, Wolves** — Hamilton is getting 25-plus minutes per game.
- **Dennis Schroder, PG, Hawks** — When/if this German import gets his nicked toe right, he'll be a top-40 player for the final few games.

DENNIS SCHRODER
GETTY IMAGES

MLB

SHANE VICTORINO
GETTY IMAGES

Victorino likely to start in RF

Veteran Shane Victorino will likely start in right field for the Red Sox on Monday in their regular-season opener in Philadelphia. Newcomer Rusney Castillo made a strong case for an Opening Day start in spring training as he owns a .320 batting average heading into the final weekend of practice ball. Victorino is hitting only .188 this spring. **MATT BURKE**

NCAA

Geno blasts men's hoop

UConn women's head coach Geno Auriemma says that college men's basketball has never been in worse shape and that the current product is "a joke."

"As a spectator watching it, it's a joke," Auriemma said. "There's only like 10 teams, you know, out of 25 that actually play the kind of game of basketball that you'd like to watch. The bottom line is, nobody can score. And they'll tell you that it's because of great defense, great scouting, a lot of teamwork. Nonsense, nonsense. College men's basketball is so far behind the times it's unbelievable. **MATT BURKE**

3 SPORTS

NHL

B's with big week ahead

With a win at Joe Louis Arena over the Red Wings Thursday (7:30 p.m., NESN), the Bruins can jump into a tie with Detroit for seventh place in the Eastern Conference. The Bruins are still battling for a playoff spot, but have won their last three games. After the Detroit game, Boston will be back at TD Garden Saturday for their regular-season home finale, against the lowly Maple Leafs (7 p.m., NESN). The B's have three away games next week to close the regular season.

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NBA Power Rankings | by James Toscano

No. 1

Warriors (61-13)

Ten straight wins and 15 of their last 16, the last six of which have been by at least 13 points. Yeah, this team is rolling into the playoffs right now — and should go the distance.

No. 2

Hawks (56-19)

The Hawks have turned things around, winning three of their last five. Dennis Schroder injured his toe Monday, but Atlanta dodged a bullet in that it's just a sprain.

No. 3

Rockets (50-24)

The Rockets are 3-0 in games Dwight Howard has played in since his return. He's averaging 11 points and seven boards in 18.3 minutes per game.

No. 4

Cavaliers (48-27)

The Cavs will most likely end up with the second seed in the East. But who will they play? It's looking like the Heat. And they also play each other Thursday.

No. 5

Clippers (49-26)

Aside from the Warriors, no team is playing better basketball than the Clippers right now. L.A. fell to Golden State, 110-106, Tuesday.

No. 6

Blazers (48-25)

The Blazers are smack dab in the middle of a lethal Western Conference playoff race and have won four straight games after dropping five in a row.

No. 7

Grizzlies (51-24)

Yikes. The Grizzlies struck out last week, falling to the Cavaliers, Warriors and Spurs — all by double digits. That's obviously a terrible sign.

No. 8

Spurs (48-26)

File under: least shocking news. The Spurs are rounding into form just in time for the playoffs, winning seven of their last eight, including a win over the Heat on Tuesday.

No. 9

Thunder (42-32)

Russell Westbrook steals most of the headlines in OKC — and rightfully so — but how about the job Enes Kanter has done?

No. 10

Mavericks (45-29)

The Mavericks aren't going to make much noise in the playoffs this season, but they're going to go out without making a peep if Monta Ellis isn't healthy.

No. 11

Bulls (45-29)

Andrew Wiggins is going to win Rookie of the Year, and Nerlens Noel has had a great rookie season. But Nikola Mirotic has been tremendous.

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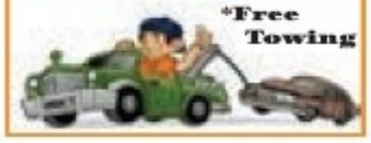

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Special 12.37-18.75.
Orig.* 49.50-$75, after special 19.80-37.50.
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143 GIRL
Reg. $39, after special 29.99.
From 143 Girl.
Shown: Owanda dress pump.
5-10, 11M.
★1988800.

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Select handbags and wallets.

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Reg. $1000, after special $525.
TruMiracle™ 3/4 ct. t.w.‡ in 14k white gold.
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MACYS.COM PROMO CODE: LPOS25
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EXCLUDES: Deals of the Day, Doorbusters, Everyday Values (EDV), cosmetics/fragrances, electrics/electronics, floor coverings, furniture, mattresses, rugs. Also excludes: shoes for her, athletic apparel, shoes & accessories; Dallas Cowboys merchandise, gift cards, jewelry trunk shows, New Era, Nike on Field, previous purchases, selected licensed depts., services, special orders, special purchases. Cannot be combined with any savings pass/coupon, extra discount or credit offer, except opening a new Macy's account. Dollar savings are allocated as discounts off each eligible item, as shown on receipt. When you return an item, you forfeit the savings allocated to that item. This coupon has no cash value and may not be redeemed for cash, used to purchase gift cards or applied as payment or credit to your account. Purchase must be $25 or more, exclusive of tax and delivery fees.

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VALID 4/3 OR 4/4/15. LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER.
EXCLUDES: Deals of the Day, Doorbusters, Everyday Values (EDV), cosmetics/fragrances, electrics/electronics, floor coverings, furniture, mattresses, rugs. Also excludes: shoes for her, athletic apparel, shoes & accessories; Dallas Cowboys merchandise, gift cards, jewelry trunk shows, New Era, Nike on Field, previous purchases, selected licensed depts., services, special orders, special purchases. Cannot be combined with any savings pass/coupon, extra discount or credit offer, except opening a new Macy's account. Dollar savings are allocated as discounts off each eligible item, as shown on receipt. When you return an item, you forfeit the savings allocated to that item. This coupon has no cash value and may not be redeemed for cash, used to purchase gift cards or applied as payment or credit to your account. Purchase must be $50 or more, exclusive of tax and delivery fees.

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already reduced prices
FOR A TOTAL SAVINGS OF 60%-85% OFF
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